

CLAIM LISTING

A listing of an entire set of claims 1-13 is submitted herewith per 37 C.F.R. §1.121. This listing of claims 1-13 will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A high frequency driver for a gas discharge lamp, which is in series with an inductor and which has a capacitor connected in parallel to it, comprising an oscillator, which has DC input terminals for connecting to a DC source and AC output terminals for connecting to a load comprising the lamp, the inductor and the capacitor, the oscillator oscillating a lamp voltage at a first high frequency during ignition of the lamp and the oscillator oscillating the lamp voltage at a second high frequency during normal operation of the lamp after its ignition, with the first frequency being higher than the second frequency by a ratio of at least $[[2,2]]$ 2.2.
2. (Currently Amended) The driver according to claim 1, wherein $[[,]]$ the ratio is in a range of $[[2,2]]$ 2.2 to 7.
3. (Currently Amended) The driver according to claim 1, wherein $[[,]]$ the ratio is [about] 5.
4. (Currently Amended) The driver according to claim 1, wherein $[[,]]$ the oscillating frequency is frequency modulated with less than 15% of an average of the oscillating frequency.
5. (Currently Amended) The driver according to claim 4, wherein $[[,]]$ the frequency modulation is about 7% of the average of the oscillating frequency.
6. (Currently Amended) The driver according to claim 4, wherein $[[,]]$ the modulating frequency is derived from an AC supply to the DC source.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for driving a gas discharge lamp, which is in series with an inductor and which has a capacitor connected in parallel to it, by a driver which comprises an oscillator, which has DC input terminals for connecting to a DC source and AC output terminals for connecting to a load comprising the lamp, the inductor and the capacitor, the oscillator oscillating a lamp voltage at a first high frequency during ignition of the lamp and the oscillator oscillating the lamp voltage at a second high frequency during normal operation of the lamp after its ignition, with the first frequency being higher than the second frequency by a ratio of at least $[[2,2]]$ 2.2.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein $[[,]]$ the ratio is in a range of $[[2,2]]$ 2.2 to 7.

9. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein $[[,]]$ the ratio is [about] 5.

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein $[[,]]$ the oscillating frequency is frequency modulated with less than 15% of an average of the oscillating frequency.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein $[[,]]$ the frequency modulation is about 7% of the average of the oscillating frequency.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 10, wherein $[[,]]$ the modulating frequency is derived from an AC supply to the DC source.

13. (Previously Presented) A gas discharge lamp assembly comprising a gas discharge lamp, an inductor which is in series with the lamp, and a capacitor which is in parallel to the lamp, a DC supply circuit and a driver according to claim 1 which is connected in series between the DC supply circuit and the lamp.